

Amendment to the Claims: This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1-6. (cancelled)

7. (currently amended) ~~Monoclonal antibodies~~ A monoclonal antibody against the hTSH receptor, ~~having properties which wherein said antibodies~~ block the binding of TSH and/or stimulating autoantibodies with the hTSH receptor, which is characterized in that it and wherein said antibodies recognizes a short peptide sequence of the hTSH receptor which comprises the amino acids FDSH (Phe Asp Ser His), and optionally additional flanking amino acids from the extracellular domain of the hTSH receptor, and fragments or conjugates having its specific, antigen-binding binding properties.

8. (currently amended) Monoclonal antibody according to claim 67, ~~characterized in that it~~ wherein said antibody is a humanized monoclonal mouse antibody.

9. (currently amended) Monoclonal antibody according to claim 7, wherein said antibody ~~which is produced from one of the hybridoma cells deposited under the designations 4E9/B2/C1 (DSM ACC2389); 4C1/E1/G8 (DSM ACC2390); 1b1/E10/B11/C12 (DSM ACC2391); 7E3/F8/E3 (DSM ACC2392); 3H10/A11/A1 (DSM ACC2393) at DSMZ, Braunschweig, according to the Budapest Treaty on 19.2.1999.~~

10. (new) The monoclonal antibody of claim 7, wherein said peptide sequence further comprises additional contiguous flanking amino acids from the extracellular domain of the hTSH receptor, and fragments or conjugates having its specific, antigen-binding binding properties.

11. *(new)* A pharmaceutical composition comprising the monoclonal antibody of claim 7.
12. *(new)* A method for blocking the binding of TSH and/or autoantibodies to the hTSH receptor comprising contacting said hTSH receptor with the monoclonal antibody of claim 7.
13. *(new)* A method for treatment of hyperthyroidism comprising administering to a patient in need thereof a pharmaceutically effective dose of the pharmaceutical composition of claim 11.